



STOP UNDERAGE DRINKING IN THE FLATHEAD COALITION

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We Are Proud To Salute The Alcohol Enforcement Team During Red Ribbon Week.

**"THANK YOU" for the work you do helping to keep our youth
and community safe!**

Each year communities throughout the U.S. set aside a week in October to honor the memory of Enrique Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Agent who was kidnapped, tortured and killed in the line of duty by drug traffickers in Mexico in 1985.

His tragic death produced an outpouring of grief that over time has generated a renewed sense of commitment to keeping our communities drug-free. **Red Ribbon Week** has become one of the most far reaching and well-known drug prevention events in America.

This week as we participate in our community events supporting Red Ribbon Week, we ask you to also honor and recognize the many contributions the **Flathead County Alcohol Enforcement Team** has made to protecting our youth throughout Flathead County and to keeping our community drug-free. The duties they perform are very important, **as alcohol is the primary drug of choice among our youth. Alcohol is also referred to as a gateway drug because youth are often exposed to marijuana and other drugs at underage drinking parties and keggers.**



Established in July of 2005, the **Alcohol Enforcement Team** is comprised of law enforcement officers from the Kalispell (KPD), Columbia Falls (CFPD), Whitefish Police Department (WFPD), The Flathead County Sheriff's Office (FCSO), Montana Highway Patrol (MHP), the U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement Units (USFS) and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The **Alcohol Enforcement Team** conducts compliance checks of retail alcohol sales establishments, and conducts training for employees of retail alcohol sales establishments on responsible alcohol sales in order to reduce alcohol sales transactions to youth. They also respond to reports of underage drinking parties and keggers, as well as proactively seeking out locations and events where underage drinking is likely to take place. **Alcohol Enforcement Team** members attend school functions to provide support and education to students and resources to parents on the dangers of alcohol and drug use.

Since 2005 the **Alcohol Enforcement Team** has issued over **6,000 Minor-in-Possession citations**, and **saved the lives of 37 Flathead County youth from death by alcohol poisoning.** In addition, they have issued over 2,000 citations for possession of dangerous drugs. Originally under the law enforcement supervision of the Flathead County Sheriff's Office, the Kalispell Police Department has been supervising the activities of the **Alcohol Enforcement Team** since July 2010. Kalispell Police Officer Jason Parce is the current Alcohol Enforcement Team coordinator and is responsible for directing the activities of the Alcohol Enforcement Team.

As an important part of our coalition's strategies to reduce and prevent underage alcohol use, we are very proud of their many contributions in keeping Flathead County youth safe from the dangers of underage alcohol use.

Let's all work together to protect Flathead County youth by keeping them drug and alcohol free.
Prevent...Don't Provide!